

Sharon, Ayal

From: Gatschet, Mark J. [MGatschet@jenkens.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2005 2:42 PM
To: Sharon, Ayal
Subject: FW: application 09/751970 (Our ref. 45060-00008; ABB ref. KN9189)

Good afternoon Examiner Sharon,

Thank you for the phone conversation earlier this afternoon.

As we discussed, I am providing below clean copies of the claims (after entry of the amendments). In the first copy, the claims are renumbered from 1 to 25. In the second copy, the original claim numbering is retained.

Again, I am available by phone at 713-951-3309 if a question should arise concerning this application.

Very truly yours,

- Mark

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Clean copy of the claims (after entry of the amendments) renumbered from 1 to 25:

1. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system to provide maintenance for the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, said information system comprising one or more databases, said information system comprising:

a service Help Desk,

mobile inspection means to make a graphic image for an inspection report,

communication means at the Help Desk to receive an inspection report comprising a graphic image,

display means at the Help desk to examine at least one of the report and the graphic image,

mobile terminal, computer and display means to retrieve information from the one or more databases,

computer and display means to compare at least one of the graphic image and the inspection report with retrieved information, and

ordering and scheduling means to issue purchase orders and work orders in respect of the report in order to provide maintenance service at a later time for the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system.

2. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, in which the inspection means comprises a web camera arranged to send pictures in a format suitable for transmission over a network such as the Internet.

3. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, which comprises a communication means enabling two-way voice communication between an inspector at a site and the Help Desk.

4. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, which comprises storage means to document details of a decision to provide maintenance service.

5. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, which comprises reporting and storage means to document details of a plan to provide maintenance service at a later time.

6. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, which comprises software means to match an identified apparatus to details of the apparatus stored as files in a database of the system, the files comprising any of text, graphic, interactive multimedia, or a sound recording.

7. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, which comprises software means to log-on a registered or identified representative of the Utility to examine operations of a database of the information system.

8. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, which comprises software means to log-on a registered or identified representative of the Utility to examine operations of the engineering Help Desk in real time.

9. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 1, which comprises computer program and/or software means to model and or simulate an effect on the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system of any of the following: a disconnection; a partial disconnection; a reconfiguring or switching in of one part and switching out of another part; an increased load on an equipment; a reduced load on an equipment.

10. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to make a computer or a processor operate in Information System comprising one or more databases and a Help Desk to provide maintenance for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, wherein said computer or processor is made to carry out actions to provide maintenance for said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system including to:

receive a data input with a graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system representing at least one maintenance report,

match the data input to an apparatus connected to a network for said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system with information stored in a database,

receive a second input documenting a maintenance repair action on the inspected portion,

link the second documented repair action to the apparatus and network,

store the documented repair action.

11. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 10, which comprises software means for carrying out a further action to:

update status reports for the apparatus and network.

12. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 10, which comprises software means for carrying out a further action to:

send a signal comprising details for work orders dependent on the documented repair action to a maintenance Service Provider company.

13. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 10, which comprises computer code means or software code portions including executable parts formed or written as one or more object oriented programs and accessible and implementable over a network.

14. A method to provide maintenance to at least one of an electrical power generation facility and an electrical power transmission and distribution network, said method comprising the steps of:

generating an electronic report comprising at least one graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network;

receiving, at an information system, the electronic report;

presenting, to a user, stored information about the inspected portion;

generating a recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion;

receiving, at the information system, the recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion; and

forwarding the recommendation to at least one of an inspector and a parts warehouse.

15. The method according to Claim 14, wherein the step of forwarding comprises the step of forwarding repair instructions to the inspector.

16. The method according to Claim 14, wherein the step of forwarding comprises the step of forwarding a part order to the parts warehouse.

17. The method according to Claim 14, further comprising the step of storing the recommendation at the information system.

18. The method according to Claim 14, wherein at least one of the electronic report and recommendation are transmitted over the Internet.

19. The method according to Claim 14, further comprising the step of accessing the information system via a wireless device.

20. The method according to Claim 14, comprising the further step of inputting technical details of the inspection portion into one or more computer programs for at least one of modeling and simulating the inspected portion according to the recommendation.

21. The method according to Claim 14, further comprising the step of receiving a notice of a condition of a portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network.

22. The method according to Claim 14, further comprising the step of accessing the information system via a web interface.

23. The method according to Claim 22, wherein the step of accessing comprises the step of accessing a database of the information system, wherein the database comprises at least one of information about electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network and a parts listing for portions of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network.

24. The method according to Claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

examining the condition of a electrical power generation facility; and

making an assessment of the condition of the electrical power generation facility.

25. A computer program contained in a computer readable medium, comprising computer program code means to make a computer or processor carry out for at least one of an electrical power generation facility and an electrical power transmission and distribution network the following steps:

generating an electronic report comprising at least one graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network;

receiving, at an information system, the electronic report;

presenting, to a user, stored information about the inspected portion;

receiving, at the information system, a recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion; and

forwarding the recommendation to at least one of an inspector and a parts warehouse.

Clean copy of the claims (after entry of the amendments) with original claim numbering retained:

1 - 18. (canceled)

19. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system to provide maintenance for the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, said information system comprising one or more databases, said information system comprising:

a service Help Desk,

mobile inspection means to make a graphic image for an inspection report,

communication means at the Help Desk to receive an inspection report comprising a graphic image,

display means at the Help desk to examine at least one of the report and the graphic image,

mobile terminal, computer and display means to retrieve information from the one or more databases,

computer and display means to compare at least one of the graphic image and the inspection report with retrieved information, and

ordering and scheduling means to issue purchase orders and work orders in respect of the report in order to provide maintenance service at a later time for the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system.

20. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, in which the inspection means comprises a web camera arranged to send pictures in a format suitable for transmission over a network such as the Internet.

21. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises a communication means enabling two-way voice communication between an inspector at a site and the Help Desk.

22. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises storage means to document details of a decision to provide maintenance service.

23. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises reporting and storage means to document details of a plan to provide maintenance service at a later time.

24. (canceled)

25. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises software means to match an identified apparatus to details of the apparatus stored as files in a database of the system, the files comprising any of text, graphic, interactive multimedia, or a sound recording.

26. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises software means to log-on a registered or identified representative of the Utility to examine operations of a database of the information system.

27. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises software means to log-on a registered or identified representative of the Utility to examine operations of the engineering Help Desk in real time.

28. An information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises computer program and/or software means to model and or simulate an effect on the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system of any of the following: a disconnection; a partial disconnection; a reconfiguring or switching in of one part and switching out of another part; an increased load on an equipment; a reduced load on an equipment.

29 - 31. (canceled)

32. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to make a computer or a processor operate in Information System comprising one or more databases and a Help Desk to provide maintenance for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, wherein said computer or processor is made to carry out actions to provide maintenance for said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system including to:

receive a data input with a graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system representing at least one maintenance report,

match the data input to an apparatus connected to a network for said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system with information stored in a database,

receive a second input documenting a maintenance repair action on the inspected portion,

link the second documented repair action to the apparatus and network,

store the documented repair action.

33. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32, which comprises software means for carrying out a further action to:

update status reports for the apparatus and network.

34. (canceled)

35. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32, which comprises software means for carrying out a further action to:

send a signal comprising details for work orders dependent on the documented repair action to a maintenance Service Provider company.

36. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 32, which comprises computer code means or software code portions including executable parts formed or written as one or more object oriented programs and accessible and implementable over a network.

37 - 45. (canceled)

46. A method to provide maintenance to at least one of an electrical power generation facility and an electrical power transmission and distribution network, said method comprising the steps of:

generating an electronic report comprising at least one graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network;

receiving, at an information system, the electronic report;

presenting, to a user, stored information about the inspected portion;

generating a recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion;

receiving, at the information system, the recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion; and

forwarding the recommendation to at least one of an inspector and a parts warehouse.

47. The method according to Claim 46, wherein the step of forwarding comprises the step of forwarding repair instructions to the inspector.

48. The method according to Claim 46, wherein the step of forwarding comprises the step of forwarding a part order to the parts warehouse.

49. The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of storing the recommendation at the information system.

50. The method according to Claim 46, wherein at least one of the electronic report and recommendation are transmitted over the Internet.

51. The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of accessing the information system via a wireless device.

52. The method according to Claim 46, comprising the further step of inputting technical details of the inspection portion into one or more computer programs for at least one of modeling and simulating the inspected portion according to the recommendation.

53. The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of receiving a notice of a condition of a portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network.

54. The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of accessing the information system via a web interface.

55. The method according to Claim 54, wherein the step of accessing comprises the step of accessing a database of the information system, wherein the database comprises at least one of information about electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network and a parts listing for portions of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network.

56. The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the steps of:

examining the condition of a electrical power generation facility; and

making an assessment of the condition of the electrical power generation facility.

57. A computer program contained in a computer readable medium, comprising computer program code means to make a computer or processor carry out for at least one of an electrical power generation facility and an electrical power transmission and distribution network the following steps:

generating an electronic report comprising at least one graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network;

receiving, at an information system, the electronic report;

presenting, to a user, stored information about the inspected portion;

receiving, at the information system, a recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion; and

forwarding the recommendation to at least one of an inspector and a parts warehouse.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gatschet, Mark J.

Sent: Monday, November 28, 2005 1:26 PM

To: 'ayal.sharon@uspto.gov'

Subject: RE: application 09/751970 (Our ref. 45060-00008; ABB ref. KN9189)

Good afternoon Examiner Sharon,

I have received approval from attorney Nick Warren for the amendments to claims 19 and 32 noted in my e-mail message of November 17 to Mr. Warren (attached below this e-mail message and its list of all pending claims, and below my e-mail message to you of November 18).

The list of all pending claims (wherein dependent claims are amended in a manner consistent with the approved amendments to independent claims 19 and 32) follows immediately below.

I am available by phone at 713-951-3309 if a question should arise concerning this application.

Very truly yours,

- Mark

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All pending claims after entry of proposed Examiner's Amendment:

1 - 18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system to provide maintenance for ~~[an]~~ the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, said information system comprising one or more databases, said information system comprising:

a service Help Desk,

mobile inspection means to make a graphic image for an inspection report,

communication means at the Help Desk to receive an inspection report comprising a graphic image,

display means at the Help desk to examine at least one of the report and the graphic image,

mobile terminal, computer and display means to retrieve information from the one or more databases,

computer and display means to compare at least one of the graphic image and the inspection report with retrieved information, and

ordering and scheduling means to issue purchase orders and work orders in respect of the ~~[plan]~~ report in order to provide maintenance service at a later time for the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system.

20. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, in which the inspection means comprises a web camera arranged to send pictures in a format suitable for transmission over a network such as the Internet.

21. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which

comprises a communication means enabling two-way voice communication between an inspector at a site and the Help Desk.

22. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises storage means to document details of a decision to provide maintenance service.

23. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises reporting and storage means to document details of a plan to provide maintenance service at a later time.

24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises software means to match an identified apparatus to details of the apparatus stored as files in a database of the system, the files comprising any of text, graphic, interactive multimedia, or a sound recording.

26. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises software means to log-on a registered or identified representative of the Utility to examine operations of ~~[the power system information]~~ a database of the information system.

27. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises software means to log-on a registered or identified representative of the Utility to examine operations of the engineering Help Desk in real time.

28. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system according to Claim 19, which comprises computer program and/or software means to model and or simulate an effect on the ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system of any of the following: a disconnection; a partial disconnection; a reconfiguring or switching in of one part and switching out of another part; an increased load on an equipment; a reduced load on an equipment.

29 - 31. (canceled)

32. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions ~~[program product comprising computer code means or software code portions]~~ to make a computer or a processor operate in Information System comprising one or more databases and a Help Desk to provide maintenance for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, wherein said computer or processor is made to carry out actions to provide maintenance for said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system including to:

receive a data input with a graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system representing at least one maintenance report,

match the data input to an apparatus connected to a ~~[Power System]~~ network for said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system with information stored in a database,

receive a second input documenting a maintenance repair action on the inspected portion,

link the second documented repair action to the apparatus and network,

store the documented repair action.

33. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium ~~[program product]~~ according to Claim 32, which comprises software means for carrying out a further action to:

update status reports for the apparatus and network.

34. (canceled)

35. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium ~~[program product]~~ according to Claim 32, which comprises software means for carrying out a further action to:

send a signal comprising details for work orders dependent on the documented repair action to a maintenance Service Provider company.

36. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium ~~[program product]~~ according to Claim 32, which comprises computer code means or software code portions including executable parts formed or written as one or more object oriented programs and accessible and implementable over a network.

37 - 45. (canceled)

46. (previously presented) A method to provide maintenance to at least one of an electrical power generation facility and an electrical power transmission and distribution network, said method comprising the steps of:

generating an electronic report comprising at least one graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network;

receiving, at an information system, the electronic report;

presenting, to a user, stored information about the inspected portion;

generating a recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion;

receiving, at the information system, the recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion; and

forwarding the recommendation to at least one of an inspector and a parts warehouse.

47. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, wherein the step of forwarding comprises the step of forwarding repair instructions to the inspector.

48. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, wherein the step of forwarding comprises the step of forwarding a part order to the parts warehouse.

49. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of storing the recommendation at the information system.

50. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, wherein at least one of the electronic report and recommendation are transmitted over the Internet.

51. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of accessing the information system via a wireless device.

52. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, comprising the further step of inputting technical details of the inspection portion into one or more computer programs for at least one of modeling and simulating the inspected portion according to the recommendation.

53. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the

step of receiving a notice of a condition of a portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network.

54. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the step of accessing the information system via a web interface.

55. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 54, wherein the step of accessing comprises the step of accessing a database of the information system, wherein the database comprises at least one of information about electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network and a parts listing for portions of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network.

56. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, further comprising the steps of:

examining the condition of a electrical power generation facility; and

making an assessment of the condition of the electrical power generation facility.

57. (previously presented) A computer program contained in a computer readable medium, comprising computer program code means to make a computer or processor carry out for at least one of an electrical power generation facility and an electrical power transmission and distribution network the following steps:

generating an electronic report comprising at least one graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of at least one of the electrical power generation facility and the electrical power transmission and distribution network;

receiving, at an information system, the electronic report;

presenting, to a user, stored information about the inspected portion;

receiving, at the information system, a recommendation for a maintenance measure of the inspected portion; and

forwarding the recommendation to at least one of an inspector and a parts warehouse.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gatschet, Mark J.

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2005 11:06 AM

To: 'ayal.sharon@uspto.gov'

Subject: application 09/751970

11/29/05

Re: Application 09/751970

Dear Examiner Sharon,

Thank you for the phone call this morning.

As we discussed, in-house attorney Nick Warren has not yet responded to my e-mail message below. Nonetheless, forwarding the below e-mail message to you will help us to clarify our understanding of the amendments that you have proposed.

Thanks for your phone calls.

Best regards,

- Mark

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-----Original Message-----

From: Gatschet, Mark J.
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2005 5:11 PM
To: <Nick Warren>
Cc: Moore, Stan R.
Subject: Your ref. KN9189 (application 09/751970)

**Nick Warren
ABB AB
Intellectual Property
Sweden**

Re: Your ref. KN9189 (application 09/751970 "System and method to provide maintenance for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system")

Dear Nick,

Yesterday afternoon I received a phone call from Examiner Sharon concerning your ref. KN9189 (i.e., application serial no. 09/751970).

Examiner Sharon mentioned that he wanted to allow the application after making a few amendments to claims 19 and 32.

To claim 19, Examiner Sharon wanted to:

11/29/05

1) remove from the preamble the two words "power system" as modifying "information system" and substitute "for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system" for those two words.

2) replace "plan" in claim 19 with "report."

After looking carefully at the text of pending claim 19, my interpretation of the amendments that Examiner Sharon would like to make to claim 19 are as follows:

19. (currently amended) An ~~[A power system]~~ information system for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system to provide maintenance for ~~[an]~~ the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, said information system comprising one or more databases, said information system comprising:

a service Help Desk,

mobile inspection means to make a graphic image for an inspection report,

communication means at the Help Desk to receive an inspection report comprising a graphic image,

display means at the Help desk to examine at least one of the report and the graphic image,

mobile terminal, computer and display means to retrieve information from the one or more databases,

computer and display means to compare at least one of the graphic image and the inspection report with retrieved information, and

ordering and scheduling means to issue purchase orders and work orders in respect of the ~~[plan]~~ report in order to provide maintenance service at a later time for the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system.

To claim 32, Examiner Sharon wanted to:

1) remove from the preamble the words "computer program product comprising computer code means or software code portions" and replace them with more customary language, i.e., "computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions."

2) include the element of a "graphic image" in the claim. (Examiner Sharon thought that the "graphic image" element was necessary for patentability)

After looking carefully at the text of pending claim 32, my interpretation of the

amendments that Examiner Sharon would like to make to claim 32 are as follows:

32. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions ~~[program product comprising computer code means or software code portions]~~ to make a computer or a processor operate in Information System comprising one or more databases and a Help Desk to provide maintenance for an electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system, wherein said computer or processor is made to carry out actions to provide maintenance for said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system including to:

receive a data input with a graphic image of a condition of an inspected portion of the electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system and apparatus connected to said ~~[power system]~~ electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system representing at least one maintenance report,

match the data input to an apparatus connected to a ~~[Power System]~~ network for said electrical power generation, transmission and distribution system with information stored in a database,

receive a second input documenting a maintenance repair action on the inspected portion,

link the second documented repair action to the apparatus and network,

store the documented repair action.

Also, an Examiner's Amendment to independent claims 19 and 32 would require, for purposes of maintaining antecedent basis, changes to claims that depend from claims 19 and 32.

The proposed amendments to claims 19 and 32, as noted in non-italicized black font text above, look to be reasonable in view of the specification and original claims.

If my understanding of what Examiner Sharon wants in the way of amendments to claim 19 and 32 is correct, would you also approve of these amendments?

Stan Moore also sends his best wishes.

Thanks,

- Mark

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